Claims:

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- 1. A positioning device (1) for an X-ray detector (11) or an X-ray source (23), having an arched arm (15) in which the X-ray detector (11) or the X-ray source (23) can be supported displaceably in the direction of the arch, and having a base (9) in which the arched arm (15) is supported displaceably in the direction of the arch.
- 2. The positioning device (1) as defined by claim 1, wherein the arched arm (15) is supported displaceably in the direction of the arch in a second arched arm (13); and wherein the second arched arm (13) is supported displaceably in the direction of the arch in the base (9).
- 3. The positioning device (1) as defined by one of the foregoing claims, wherein the X-ray detector (11) or the X- ray source (23) can be supported movably in the arched arm (15) in the radial direction relative to the arch.
- 4. A patient-supporting device (5, 7), which has a positioning device (1) as defined by one of the foregoing claims.
- 5. The patient-supporting device (5, 7) as defined by claim 4, having a patient-supporting table (5), wherein the positioning device (1) is located underneath the patient-supporting table (5).
- 6. An X-ray machine (21), which has a patient- supporting device (5, 7) as defined by one of claims 4 or 5 and an X-ray source (23), supported movably in all directions in space and located separately from the positioning device (1).
- 7. The X-ray machine (21) as defined by claim 6, which has a control unit (27), which is connected to the X-ray source (23) and the positioning device (1) and which is embodied so as to move the X-ray source (23) and the positioning device (1) in a manner adapted to one another, so that they assume a predetermined orientation to one another.
- 8. An X-ray machine (21), which has a patient- supporting device (5, 7) as defined by one of claims 4 or 5 and an X-ray detector (11), supported movably in all directions in space and located separately from the positioning device (1).

9. The X-ray machine (21) as defined by claim 8, which has a control unit (27), which is connected to the X-ray detector (11) and the positioning device (1) and which is embodied so as to move the X-ray detector (11) and the positioning device (1) in a manner adapted to one another, so that they assume a predetermined orientation to one another.